

PONTARDAWE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1946



NEATH:
W. WHITTINGTON LTD., WIND STREET

1948

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MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1946

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Pontardawe Rural District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1946. The Report is drawn up in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, as laid down in Circular 13/47 (Wales).

A study of this Report will show that the first full year of peace after the holocaust of the previous six years was not responsible for any remarkable extension of the health services. Shortages of a variety of materials and the knowledge of pending changes made any kind of progress difficult. However, we were able to maintain the services previously rendered and make some small measure of improvement in matters affecting Maternity and Child Welfare and the Gellynudd Isolation Hospital.

During the year particular attention was paid to the milk and water supplies of the District, as will be seen from the number of samples taken. The extreme importance of paying every regard to these human necessities cannot be over-emphasized and, therefore, their supervision is a primary duty of a health authority.

The burning question of the year proved to be housing accommodation. The applications received from applicants residing in the various Wards showed that many families were living under distressing conditions. The completion of a number of houses under the Council's post-war housing scheme enabled relief to be given to a number of families with special problems.

Throughout the year special efforts were made to increase the percentage of children immunised against diphtheria. These efforts were made by enlisting the services of our health visitors who were asked to make a special canvass, by publicity at our Infant Centres and in the local press.

It is again desired to thank the Chairman and the Members of the Council for the interest shown in matters affecting the public health, and to express appreciation for the co-operation of the Public Health Staff during the year covered by this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. ALUN EVANS,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Chairman of the Public Health Committee—

Councillor John Davies, J.P.

Public Health Officers

Medical Officers of Health.. Brig. J. Gwynne Morgan, C.B.E.,
T.D., M.B., B.S.(Lond.), M.R.C.S.
(Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.
(part-year).

J. Alun Evans, M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (part-
year).

Temporary Medical Officer
of Health

D. Trevor Thomas, M.R.C.S. (Eng.),
L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H. (part-
year).

Senior Sanitary Inspector.. Ieuan Lewis, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Ins-
pector

G. A. Rees, M.S.I.A.

Health Visitor

M. T. Morgan, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Administrative & Clerical :

Senior Assistant John Rogers

H. Wynne Jones (part-year) Mary E. Davies

Rufus Thomas Gwyneth Davies

Elwyn Lewis Katie M. John (part-year)

Dyfrig Hopkin (part-year) Lewis J. Williams (part-year)

John W. Rees (part-year) Marion Jenkins (part-year)

Consultant for Difficult Dr. J. Lloyd Davies, M.D., M.R.C.P.,
Obstetric Cases F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Gellynudd Isolation Hospital

Medical Superintendent Medical Officer of Health

Matron M. Rhys Williams, S.R.N., S.F.R.N.

Health Visitors (*Part Time*)

Pontardawe Nurses G. Pryce and N. Davies

Clydach Nurses M. Jenkins and A. Carr

The Nurses mentioned above who are employed by Local Nursing Associations, attend Infant Welfare Centres, visit children of pre-school age for health purposes, and endeavour to obtain parents' consent for the diphtheria immunization of their young children. Visits are also paid to sufferers from tuberculosis.

Midwives

The Glamorgan County Council are the Supervising Authority for the Midwives in the District, these are then under their jurisdiction.

SECTION A—STATISTICS

Area as given on Ordnance Maps	....	....	34,969 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of Population	....		33,160
Rateable Value	....	....	£126,428
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	....	....	£470

Birth-rate per R. G.'s birth figures: 17·7 per 1,000 estimated civilian population.

Live-birth rate per R. G.'s birth figures: 17·4 per 1,000 estimated civilian population.

Still-birth rate per R. G.'s still-birth figures: 27·1 per 1,000 live and still-births.

Death-rate 12·3 per 1,000 estimated civilian population.

Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar's Short List).

		Rate per 1,000 live and still births per Registrar- Deaths. General figures.
No. 29 Puerperal and Post-Abortive sepsis	....	Nil
No. 30 Other Maternal Causes		1
Death-rate of Infants under one year of age :		
All Infants per 1,000 live-births, per Registrar-General's figures	52·0	
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live-births	....	48·3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live-births	....	166·6
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	....	58
„ „ Measles	....	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	....	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 ' years of age)	....	Nil

Report under the Factories Act, 1937.

The factories in the District were kept under supervision throughout the year for the various defects which come within the jurisdiction of this Authority, and where these were found, instructions were given to effect the necessary improvements.

The changes occurring in the various industries and notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories were recorded in our Register.

VITAL STATISTICS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1946, CLASSIFIED BY AGES, CAUSES AND LOCALITIES.

[illegible]

[illegible]

GLAMORGAN (ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY)—VITAL STATISTICS 1946

DISTRICT	Estimated Population 1946	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY	
		Number of Births	Rate per 1,000 Population	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population	Deaths under 1 year	Rate per 1,000 Births
Administrative County	710,160	13,799	19.4	8,591	12.1	624	45
Urban Districts	520,490	10,284	19.8	6,501	12.5	462	45
Rural Districts	189,670	3,515	18.5	2,090	11.0	162	46
England and Wales	....	....	19.1	....	11.5	....	43
URBAN DISTRICTS—							
Aberdare	39,920	658	16.5	581	14.6	30	46
Barry	38,010	817	21.5	449	11.8	38	47
Bridgend	12,770	255	20.0	132	10.3	7	27
Caerphilly	32,240	759	23.5	401	12.4	34	46
Cowbridge	1,255	19	15.1	11	8.8	1	53
Gelligaer	35,980	794	22.1	422	11.7	43	54
Glyncorrwg	8,904	197	22.1	105	11.8	14	71
Llchwyr	25,510	395	15.5	284	11.1	17	43

Maesteg ....	....	....	....	....	500	22.1	255	11.3	25	50
Mountain Ash ....	....	....	....	....	635	19.9	388	12.2	32	50
Neath ....	....	....	....	....	591	19.1	395	12.8	26	44
Ogmore and Garw	....	....	....	....	455	19.5	275	11.8	15	33
Penarth ....	....	....	....	....	312	18.7	215	12.9	10	32
Pontypridd ....	....	....	....	....	778	20.1	502	13.0	41	53
Porthcawl ....	....	....	....	....	146	17.1	113	13.2	2	14
Port Talbot ....	....	....	....	....	770	19.3	477	11.9	33	43
Rhondda ....	....	....	....	....	2,203	19.4	1,496	13.2	94	43
RURAL DISTRICTS—										
Cardiff ....	....	....	....	....	619	17.3	367	10.3	26	42
Cowbridge ....	....	....	....	....	281	22.0	136	10.7	18	64
Gower ....	....	....	....	....	201	18.6	128	11.8	15	75
Llantrisant ....	....	....	....	....	498	21.1	271	11.5	18	36
Neath ....	....	....	....	....	741	18.5	448	11.2	35	47
Penybont ....	....	....	....	....	599	17.9	333	10.0	20	33
Pontardawe ....	....	....	....	....	576	17.4	407	12.3	30	52

**BIRTHS BELONGING TO PONTARDAWE RURAL DISTRICT,
1940-1946.**

Year	Born in Area			Born Outside Area			Total Births	West Glamorgan Hospital			No. of Mothers Admitted to other Maternity Homes and Hospitals
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total		No. of Mothers whose admission was arranged by M.O.H.	No. of Mothers whose admission was arranged privately		
1940	199	173	372	68	44	112	484	1	105	6	
1941	225	207	432	61	59	120	552	11	94	13	
1942	205	224	429	89	65	154	583	2	122	22	
1943	195	185	380	86	104	190	570	1	141	48	
1944	204	189	393	105	106	211	604	7	138	66	
1945	161	158	319	134	99	233	552	6	159	65	
1946	151	173	324	143	132	275	599	14	160	101	

BIRTHS DURING 1946

<i>Month</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
JANUARY	28	26
FEBRUARY	24	24
MARCH	18	35
APRIL	20	21
MAY	19	28
JUNE	25	25
JULY	21	21
AUGUST	29	27
SEPTEMBER	20	28
OCTOBER	18	22
NOVEMBER	42	29
DECEMBER	30	19
TOTALS	294	305

DEATHS IN VARIOUS MONTHS, 1946

<i>Month</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
JANUARY	29	22
FEBRUARY	18	20
MARCH	19	22
APRIL	16	20
MAY	23	10
JUNE	20	6
JULY	15	16
AUGUST	16	15
SEPTEMBER	10	16
OCTOBER	25	11
NOVEMBER	12	15
DECEMBER	19	13
TOTALS	222	186

BIRTHS IN DISTRICT, 1946.

Month	Total Births		Total	CLYDACH						PONTARDAWE						YSTALYFERA						GWAUNCAE-GURWEN					
	Total Births			Legitimate		Illegitimate		Still Born		Legitimate		Illegitimate		Still Born		Legitimate		Illegitimate		Still Born		Legitimate		Illegitimate		Still Born	
	M	F		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
January	16	14	30	7	4	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	3	3	-	-	3	1	-	-	-
February	9	13	22	4	7	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
March	8	20	28	1	4	-	-	-	-	3	6	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	2	7	-	-	4	1	-	-	-
April	12	12	24	1	2	1	1	-	-	6	4	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	4	3	-	-	3	2	-	-	-
May	12	14	26	6	2	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	3	2	-	-	3	3	-	-	-
June	12	13	25	5	4	-	-	-	-	3	4	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	3	4	-	-	3	3	-	-	-
July	10	12	22	3	5	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	4	-	-	2	3	-	-	-
August	13	15	28	5	4	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	4	6	-	-	2	3	-	-	2	2	-	-	-
September	10	16	26	4	5	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	4	-	-	2	3	-	-	-
October	9	14	23	4	3	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	4	7	-	-	-
November	25	21	36	8	6	-	-	-	-	3	5	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	9	7	-	-	4	1	-	-	-
December	15	9	24	8	3	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	151	473	324	56	49	1	1	1	2	28	48	2	-	-	25	32	-	-	38	39	-	-	2	-	-	-	-

BIRTHS BELONGING TO DISTRICT BORN OUTSIDE AREA.

Month	Total Births		CLYDACH						PONTARDAWE						YSTALYFERA						GWAUNCAE-GURWEN					
			Total		Legitimate		Illegitimate		Still Born		Legitimate		Illegitimate		Still Born		Legitimate		Illegitimate		Still Born		Legitimate		Illegitimate	
	M	F			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
January	12	12	24	3	1	6	1	1	1	1	5	6	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	4	2	2
February	15	11	26	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	4	2	1	1	1	1	5	4	1	1	1	1	4	3	1	1
March	10	15	25	2	3	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	5	2	1	1
April	8	9	17	2	4	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
May	7	14	21	1	2	5	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	4	3	1
June	13	12	25	4	5	2	1	1	1	1	4	2	1	1	1	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1
July	11	9	20	2	4	3	1	1	1	1	6	3	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	1
August	16	12	28	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	9	2	1	1	1	2	3	4	1	1	1	3	1	5	1	1
September	10	12	22	4	3	3	1	1	1	1	5	2	1	1	1	3	1	4	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1
October	9	8	17	3	1	5	1	1	1	1	2	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1
November	17	8	25	5	1	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	5	2	2	1	1
December	15	10	25	7	3	4	1	1	1	1	6	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
TOTALS	143	132	275	36	28	40	1	1	1	2	52	40	1	1	2	21	31	1	2	27	29	1	27	29	1	1

DEATHS FROM VIOLENCE, 1946.

<i>Cause</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Cly- dach</i>	<i>Pontar- dawe</i>	<i>Ystaly- fera</i>	<i>G.C.C.</i>
Exposure 	1	....	....	....	....	1
Industrial 	7	....	2	1	....	4
Burns and Scalds 	1	1	....	1	1	..
Misadventure .	1	1	....	1	....	1
Poisoning by Luminal 	1	....	....	....	1	....
TOTALS 	11	2	2	3	2	6

SUICIDE, 1946.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Cly- dach</i>	<i>Pontar- dawe</i>	<i>Ystaly- fera</i>	<i>G.C.C.</i>
Coal Gas Poisoning 	1	1	....	1	1	....
Hanging 	2	....	1	1	....	....
TOTALS 	3	1	1	2	1	....

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS, 1946.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Cly- dach</i>	<i>Pontar- dawe</i>	<i>Ystaly- fera</i>	<i>G.C.C.</i>
Road Traffic Accidents	2	3	1	....	1	3

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT

(a) Laboratory Facilities

The City and County Laboratory, Cardiff, still examines pathological specimens for this Authority, although we now also have an arrangement to the same effect with the Beck Laboratory, Swansea. Primary specimens are also examined at the small laboratory attached to the Isolation Hospital.

Milk and water samples and those for other foods are still sent to the Cardiff Laboratory for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis. During the year milk tests were also made at the Hospital laboratory mentioned above.

Samples taken :—

WATER :

Bacteriological Examinations	....	....	88
Chemical Analyses	....	....	18

MILK :

Bacteriological Examinations	....	....	44
Resazurin Test	....	....	99

SEWAGE :

Sewage Analyses	....	....	12
Effluent Analyses	....	....	12

Copies of the results of the sewage and effluent samples taken from the Council's sewage farms were received from the County Medical Officer of Health.

(b) Hospitals

(1) GWRHYD SMALL-POX HOSPITAL

The hospital mentioned above continues to be kept on a care and maintenance basis. The emergency supplies for this institution are kept at the Gellynudd Isolation Hospital as we have there more suitable storage accommodation. The joint caretakers maintain the premises in such a state that patients could be admitted in an emergency.

(2) GELLYNUDD ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

This institution continues to serve its purpose well. The number of cases admitted for treatment during the year dealt with in this Report was 185.

The arrangement to treat cases for the Ystradgynlais District still operates and the cases treated from that District are included in the figure given above.

(3) PRINCE OF WALES ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL, CARDIFF

Children of pre-school age in need of institutional orthopaedic treatment are admitted to this Hospital in accordance with arrangements which have been in force for some years.

(4) WEST GLAMORGAN HOSPITAL

Fourteen cases were admitted to this Hospital by the Medical Officer of Health for confinement in accordance with arrangements made with the Medical Superintendent.

Private arrangements for admittance to this Hospital for confinement are made by a large number of expectant mothers from this District.

By arrangement with the County Authority children coming within our jurisdiction as a Welfare Authority are also admitted when occasion demands.

(c) Ambulance Facilities

We have attached to the Gellynudd Isolation Hospital an ambulance which is used for conveying to the Hospital all infectious cases occurring in the District needing hospital treatment and similar cases from outside the Area.

Cases other than those suffering from Infectious Diseases and in need of the services of an ambulance are conveyed to the various hospitals and institutions by the St. John's Ambulances stationed in the different areas, or by works or public ambulances.

(d) Nursing in the Home

The Nursing Associations functioning in the various areas of the District are responsible, through their Nurses, for the carrying out of Home Nursing where necessary. Grants towards this service by the Associations are made by the Council.

(e) Danygraig Hostel

The evacuated children who were in residence at this Hostel were transferred elsewhere in February, and consequently the institution, which had rendered good service since its inception, was closed. During the period of its activity the children were under the medical supervision of the Medical Officer of Health.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

Infant Welfare Centres were in operation during the year in the six main centres of population in the District, namely :—Clydach, Pontardawe, Godrergraig, Ystalyfera, Cwmllynfell and Gwauncaegurwen. Clinic Meetings are held at these centres every week or fortnight according to the needs of the various areas. Existing premises are generally considered to be unsatisfactory, and the re-housing of these Centres has been approved by the Council, but no progress has been made because of various difficulties, not the least of which was the scarcity of materials.

COST OF MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

The cost of administering our Maternity and Child Welfare Services during the year amounted to approximately £1,900, which is considered a reasonable figure in view of the services rendered.

SUB-COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS

<i>Cases of Special Nourishment</i>	<i>Dental Cases</i>	<i>Ortho- paedic Cases</i>	<i>Ear, Nose and Throat Cases</i>	<i>Ophthalmic Cases</i>	<i>Home Helps</i>
11	7	17	19	5	7

The varied arrangements necessary for the examination and treatment of the cases mentioned above were made with the County and other Authorities.

Although these figures are not large they represent much good work done. By submitting these children to examination and treatment by specialists at an early age we often prevent irreparable injury to mind or body.

DISTRIBUTION OF VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTS AND NATIONAL DRIED MILK

The figures given below show the quantities of the various vitamin supplements and National Dried Milk issued in the District during the year.

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Orange Juice (Bottles)</i>	<i>Cod Liver Oil (Bottles)</i>	<i>Vitamin Tablets (Packets)</i>	<i>National Dried Milk (Tins)</i>
Alltwen	548	113	7	54
Clydach	4,197	641	81	2,890
Craigcefnparc	1,185	277	31	651
Cwmilynfell....	2,227	441	69	928
Godrergraig....	394	63	8	285
Gwauncaegurwen	5,607	919	120	1,504
Pontardawe	15,935	2,362	539	11,785
Trebanos	877	121	27	107
Ystalyfera	3,041	530	61	2,695
Mond Nickel Co.	387	42	14	Nil
	34,398	5,509	957	20,899
Schools	4,033	788	Nil	Nil
Institutions	132	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	38,563	6,297	957	20,899

The figures above, which show the total distribution in the District made in co-operation with the Local Food Office, can be considered only fairly satisfactory. This is said even though we compare favourably with other Districts with respect to the distribution of the vitamin supplements and National Dried Milk. In the monthly circular issued by the Ministry of Food we show a good record when compared with other Authorities.

Still I would like to see some improvement in the total number of eligible persons taking advantage of these products, for their importance in helping to build up a healthy race cannot be over-stressed. With this end in view we are constantly taking part in various forms of advertising and instructing our health visitors to make known the virtues of our wares on every possible occasion.

MILK AND DRIED FOODS

Free and cheap milk is supplied to eligible persons through the local office of the Ministry of Food.

Various brands of dried foods are sold at the Clinic Centres for near cost price. This practice has been found very helpful in cases where the family incomes are over our scales for a free supply, but which incomes are yet insufficient to meet without sacrifice the full cost of the special nourishment that the children of such families need.

ANTE-NATAL SCHEME

The number of expectant mothers confined in the District known to have received ante-natal examinations showed some improvement on the previous year, for the figure was 115, as against 81 in 1945. However, this total to my mind continues to be far from satisfactory and I had very much hoped to be able to show considerable improvement at this date, but the delay in purchasing Ynisderw House has made it impossible as yet to set up an Ante-Natal Clinic.

HEALTH VISITING OF CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OF AGE

Particulars of visits paid by our Health Visitors to young children of pre-school age, and therefore coming within our jurisdiction as a Maternity and Child Welfare Authority, are now given.

To children under 1 year of age	....	<i>Total Visits, 3,654</i>
To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	.... .. ,,	4,291

The procedure whereby Health Visitors are informed at an early date of all births affecting the District, whether these occur at home or in outside institutions, is still followed. This enables expert advice to be given to mothers when the need is greatest.

CHILDREN ATTENDING AT CLINIC CENTRES

Below is given the total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the six Clinic Centres.

Under 1 year at the end of the year	.... ..	385
Over 1 year, but under 5 years at the end of the year	.... ..	1,141

These figures reveal that approximately 55% of all children in the District under 5 years of age attended at the various Centres. It is a great pity that the remaining 45%, or at least the larger proportion of them, could not be persuaded to attend, for experience has taught us that more often than not the children of parents who neglect to take advantage of the facilities offered them are those in greatest need of care and attention.

In a previous report I have stressed the role of Sub-Committee members in improving attendances at Clinic Centres and on this occasion I can do no better than repeat that all members should make every effort to persuade all mothers known to them with young children to attend the nearest Centre to their homes. This function is looked upon as a primary duty of each and every Sub-Committee member.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Thirty deaths occurred during the year in children under one year who were permanent residents in the District. A considerable number of these deaths occurred in hospital, which is to be expected for practically all the difficult confinement cases are sent to institutions. The total number of deaths in this age group was five less than the figure for the previous year although the total number of births for the District was considerably higher than that recorded in 1945. The Infantile Mortality Rate for this District was 52 per 1,000 births, which was higher than the figure for the whole country.

MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION

During the year accommodation for institutional confinement was found for fourteen expectant mothers. Admittance was obtained for these as their home conditions made it impossible for their confinement to take place there.

In addition to the mothers already mentioned, 261 others were confined in institutions. These confinements took place in the various hospitals and maternity homes as a result of private arrangements made by the people concerned.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

We had one death from maternal causes during the year. This expectant mother suffered from a ruptured ectopic pregnancy and died in an ambulance before a hospital could be reached.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

(a) PREMATURE INFANTS

The notification of birth forms which we now employ have special provision for notifying the weight of children. This enables the health visitors to be informed of premature births, and to pay visits immediately to such children in order to give them their special attention.

The total number of children notified whose weights at birth were 5½-lbs. and under was 38. Twenty-seven of these were born at home and eleven in hospitals or maternity homes. Thirty-two of these children survived after one month.

(b) ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

In accordance with a previous decision our Health Visitors continue to offer all the assistance possible in cases of illegitimacy. When these are brought to the notice of the Department we always endeavour to render what assistance we can through the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

SUPPLY OF SHEETS FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

Upon the receipt of a certificate of need from a doctor or midwife in attendance, priority dockets supplied by the Board of Trade were issued to expectant mothers who were to be confined at home.

The total number of dockets issued during the year under review was 897.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Immunisation against diphtheria has been available at the Clinic Centres for all children throughout the year. The number estimated to be immunised at the end of the year in the two age groups listed by the Welsh Board of Health is given below.

	% of Total No.			
Estimated total between the ages of 1 and 5 years—1,431	68·1%
Estimated total between the ages of 5 and 15 years—3,399	79·0%

The campaign designed to improve our immunised percentages is still actively pursued. The sending of special birthday cards to every child on attaining his or her first birthday continues to prove effective. The Health Visitors are also performing excellent work in this respect by making special calls on parents with young children known not to have been protected against this dreaded disease of diphtheria.

PUERPERAL FEVER

One case of puerperal fever was notified during the year. This case was from the Ystalyfera District and was admitted to our Isolation Hospital, where recovery was rapid.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION

(Sections 206 to 220 Public Health Act, 1936)

Action under the sections quoted above did not become necessary during the course of the year.

DOMESTIC CLEANLINESS AND PERSONAL HYGIENE

The practice of impressing upon mothers the importance of good personal habits, cleanliness, and the need for ensuring that their young children are free from verminous conditions was continued during the year by the Health Visitors.

The various staffs engaged at the Infant Centres were also instructed to give every enlightenment to mothers regarding matters relating to domestic cleanliness and personal hygiene.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

The bulk of the water consumed in the District continued to be supplied as in past years from the Cray Reservoir. This main source of supply is supplemented by a large number of springs and tanks situated throughout the District under the maintenance and control of the Council.

(1) The waters from all sources are such as to give a constant and sufficient supply to the District's inhabitants, and are generally satisfactory in quality.

(2) Bacteriological examinations and chemical analyses of raw water were made, and of water going into supply after treatment.

During the year a complete survey was made of all public water supplies, and visits were paid to every tank and spring in the District's supply scheme. As has been stated elsewhere in the report, 88 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, and 18 samples for chemical analysis. The laboratory reports on the samples taken were, on the whole, satisfactory. Unsatisfactory reports were obtained on a small private supply and remedial action was instituted.

(3) Results of chemical analyses in all cases showed the water supplies not to have been contaminated by lead.

(4) Where the results showed any suspicion of contamination special attention was paid to that supply, and details reported to the Surveyor for suitable action. In the case of the small private supply mentioned in sub-para. (2) above, the action taken eventually led to the supply being eliminated.

(5) The system of stand-taps does not now operate in the District as the vast majority of premises have been connected to the Council's various supplies.

Special attention was paid to the District's water supply during the year, in view of the potential danger to health arising from the return of demobilised Ex-Servicemen from overseas, some of whom could possibly be carriers of water-borne disease.

A schedule giving full details of the Water Supplies of the District will be found in the Medical Officer of Health's Report for 1945.

Pollution of Rivers and Streams

During the year visits were paid to industrial concerns for the purpose of investigating possible sources of pollution to rivers and streams. As in previous years suggestions were made to the management of various undertakings with the view of improving the nature of the effluent discharged to rivers and streams.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

(a) Disinfestation—

Number of (1) Council Houses	1) Infested	11
	(2) Disinfested	11
Number of (2) Other Houses ...	(1) Infested	35
	(2) Disinfested	35

(b) Methods employed for Disinfesting Houses.

In infested houses the furniture was cleansed and placed in the centre of the rooms. Woodwork and paper were, where necessary, stripped from the walls, which were subjected to blow-lamp flame, and then sprayed with D.D.T.

Clothing suspected of infestation was removed to the Disinfecting Station at the Isolation Hospital, for steam disinfection.

Free supplies of D.D.T. in powder and liquid form were made available to the general public and were issued where necessary by the Department.

Sewage and Sewage Effluent

Copies of the results of analysis of samples of sewage and effluent taken in the District were received from the County Medical Officer of Health. These showed no marked variation from the results obtained in previous years and were, on the whole, fairly satisfactory, with a sewage of moderate strength and an effluent fairly efficiently purified.

In order that the Council's Surveyor may take any action which he considers necessary, copies of the results received are sent to him by the Department.

Development of Sewerage Systems

The need for water-carriage systems of sewage disposal in outlying villages, in substitution for the present system of night-soil collection from pail closets by contractors, remains one of the primary needs of the area. It is gratifying to be able to report that this need is now receiving active consideration, and that some progress towards the realization of this essential service has been made.

SECTION D.—HOUSING

House Inspection

Inspections were made throughout the year of houses in all parts of the District, with a view to the abatement of overcrowding and nuisances arising from sanitary defects. Details of these inspections and the action taken will be found in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Section of this Report.

In the previous Report reference was made to the need for an increased Inspectorate. The routine inspections made and defects revealed by the Housing Survey during the year alone have served to emphasise this need, and have made the absence of an adequate Inspectorate even more acutely felt.

In these circumstances, it is therefore desired to stress with renewed force that earnest consideration be given to an increase in the Inspectorate.

In order to render to the people of this District the service they deserve, this must be achieved. It is an attribute towards an essential improvement in the standard of environmental hygiene, which will be reflected in the better health of the community.

Re-housing Progress

The proper housing of the population of the District remains a grave problem, owing to the serious shortage of houses. Twenty-seven families were re-housed by the Council during the year, fourteen of these being re-housed in existing houses which became vacant, and the remaining thirteen families in newly-constructed houses, of which ten were Airey prefabricated-type bungalows.

The fact that we were able to allocate some new houses during this year, and therefore were able to take a positive stride along the road towards solution of this major problem, had a heartening effect upon the District's population.

Allocation of Houses under Points' Scheme

The points scheme previously reported upon in the Report for 1945 came into full operation during this year, and was found to work satisfactorily. Its application did bring to the fore those applicants whose needs were recognised to be greatest, and consequently did serve its purpose, since the general desire is that such people should be the first to receive the benefits of our re-housing programme.

Housing Applicants

The importance attached to the subject matter of the previous paragraph will be fully realized when it is mentioned that at the end of the year there were 1,353 families registered as applicants for re-housing, the vast majority of whom were in dire need of improved living conditions.

Housing Survey

The year saw considerable progress made in connection with the Housing Survey, which was initiated as a result of the Hobhouse Report on Rural Housing.

The following schedule illustrates the position in this District at the end of the year, and gives the number of houses surveyed by classification into Categories of Fitness, together with percentages and the number of overcrowded houses found to that date.

	CLASSIFICATION				
	1	2	3	4	5
No. of Houses Surveyed	2,497	1,532	768	....	244
Percentage of Total Surveyed	49.5	30.3	15.2	....	5.0
No. of Houses Overcrowded	72	48	141	....	29

We have in the District 8,800 houses with a ratceble value of £15 or less which need to be surveyed, and as the schedule given above shows that we have already completed 5,041 of these, it will be seen that approximately 56% of the field work has already been undertaken.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

SUMMARY OF MILK PRODUCERS, Etc.

Trade	PARISH OF					Out- side Area	Total Regis- tered
	Rhyndwy- clydach	Llan- guicke	Cily- bebyll	Ynisy- mond	Mawr		
Producers	28	52	10	4	50	12	156
Producer / Retailers	19	42	20	11	13	23	128
Retailers	5	15	1	Nil	2	5	28
Cowkeepers	8	34	9	6	15	Nil	72
TOTALS	60	143	40	21	80	40	384

Milk Supply

The farms situated in the District and registered for the purpose of producing milk numbered 249.

In addition to this figure we had 23 producer/retailers whose premises were situated outside the District but were retailing milk in the Area. There was also an additional 28 registered as milk retailers.

Particulars showing the distribution of producers, producer/retailers, retailers and Cowkeepers registered with this Authority can be found on the Schedule given in this section of the report.

Milk Samples

The results of the milk samples examined at the various laboratories are shown in the manner given below in order that the significance of milk testing can be better appreciated.

<i>Group</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>No. Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>No. Satis- factory</i>	<i>% Satis- factory</i>
TOTAL TAKEN—ALL CLASSES	832	116	716	86·2
City and County Laboratory, Cardiff, Bacteriological Examination	44	11	33	75·0
Samples taken by Inspectorate and tested at Ynisderw House, Resazurin Test	99	31	68	68·6
Samples taken by Ministry of Agriculture Officials and tested at Swansea Area Laboratory, Resazurin Test	689	74	615	89·1

A number of milk samples were taken to be examined for tubercle bacilli. All were found to be negative.

Repeated visits were paid to the premises of milk producers or retailers when unsatisfactory results were received, and advice given on the precautions necessary in order to improve their respective supplies.

It is desired to thank the Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture for supplying the figures for milk sampling done, from samples taken in this District, at the Swansea Laboratory of this Ministry.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The following particulars relating to samples and action taken have been supplied to me by Superintendent Charles Pugh, of the Gower Police Division, and it is desired to thank him for his co-operation in supplying them so that they can be included in this Report.

New Milk	....	34	Vinegar	....	....	....	2
Butter	....	....	3	Coffee & Chicory Essence	....	1	
Margarine	....	....	3	Jam	....	....	1
Lard	....	....	2	Cheese	....	....	1
Cooking Fat	....	....	1	Ground Coffee	....	....	2
Sponge Mixture	....	1					

The Public Analyst certified 47 of the 51 samples taken as being genuine. Where samples were found not to comply with requirements appropriate action was taken by the County Authority.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

PARTICULARS OF INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR 1946.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Cly- dach</i>	<i>Pontar- dawe</i>	<i>Ystaly- fera</i>	<i>G.C.C.</i>	<i>Number of cases shown admitted to Hospital</i>
Scarlet Fever	64	17	25	15	7	48+2 obs.
Whooping Cough	33	4	23	3	3	1
Measles	4	....	3	....	1	....
Diphtheria	59	3	42	13	1	59+20 obs.
Pneumonia	34	4	28	1	1	1
Dysentery	5	1	2	1	1	5
Enteric or Typhoid	2	2	....	....	....	2
Erysipelas	7	....	5	1	1	....
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	4	1	2	....	1	4+6 obs.
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	....	....	1	....	1
TOTALS	213	32	130	35	16	158

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE FOR EACH MONTH, 1946

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	6	7	5	6	10	9	6	2	2	2	2	1	64
Diphtheria	6	2	4	7	1		10	4	4	3	3	5	59
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Pul. Tuberculosis	2	—	3	3	2	3	5	2	4	3	—	—	27
Non-Pul. Tuberculosis	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	7
Pneumonia	7	1	4	1	4	3	2	1	—	1	5	5	34
Measles	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	4
Whooping Cough	1	1	—	2	2	—	6	2	2	2	10	5	33
Erysipelas	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	7
Dysentery	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2

LIST OF SCARLET FEVER CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1946

Age Groups	Total	Sex	Clydach	Pontardawe	Ystalyfera	G.C.C.
0— 1	....	M	....	....	....	....
		F	....	....	....	....
1— 2	4	M	1	1	1	....
		F	1	....	....	....
2— 3	3	M	....	....	2	....
		F	....	....	1	....
3— 4	4	M	1	....	....	1
		F	1	1	....	....
4— 5	16	M	2	2	1	1
		F	2	5	3	....
5—10	27	M	2	7	1	2
		F	4	6	4	1
10—15	6	M	1	1	1	1
		F	....	1	1	....
15—25	2	M	1	....	....	1
		F	....	....	....	....
25—35	1	M	....	1	....	....
		F	....	....	....	....
35—65	1	M	1	....	....	....
		F	....	....	....	....
65 and over	....	M	....	....	....	....
		F	....	....	....	....
TOTALS	64		17	25	15	7

Males 33
 Females 31
 64

SCABIES TREATMENT

Throughout the year persons suffering from Scabies were treated by the part-time Nurse-in-Charge at our cleansing centre, at Ynisderw House. These cases were brought to our notice by General Practitioners, and through the Officers of the County Authority.

The incidence of this ailment declined during the year, and this was reflected in the number treated, which amounted to 104 cases.

LIST OF DIPHTHERIA CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1946

<i>Age Groups</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cly- dach</i>	<i>Pontar- dawe</i>	<i>Ystaly- fera</i>	<i>G.C.C.</i>	<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
0— 1	4	M	....	2	....	1	3	1
		F	....	1	....	....	1	1
1— 2	2	M	....	1	....	....	1	....
		F	....	....	1	....	1	....
2— 3	3	M	....	1	....	....	1	....
		F	....	2	....	....	2	....
3— 4	5	M	1	....	....	....	1	....
		F	....	2	2	....	4	....
4— 5	1	M	1	....	....	....	1	1
		F	....	....	....	....	....	....
5—10	19	M	....	4	1	....	5	....
		F	....	9	5	....	14	....
10—15	12	M	1	3	1	....	5	....
		F	....	5	2	....	7	....
15—25	6	M	....	1	....	....	1	....
		F	....	4	1	....	5	....
25—35	4	M	....	....	....	....	....	....
		F	....	4	....	....	4	....
35—65	3	M	....	1	....	....	1	....
		F	....	2	....	....	2	....
65 and over	....	M	....	....	....	....	....	....
		F	....	....	....	....	....	....
TOTALS	59		3	42	13	1	59	3

Males 19

Females 40

—
59
—

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGES	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
1—5	1	1	1	....	....	....	....	....
5—15	....	....	3	1	....	....	....	....
15—25	5	3	....	2	3	3	....	....
25—35	4	5	....	....	2	2	....	....
35—45	3	1	....	....	1	....	....	....
45—55	1	1	....	....	3	1	....	....
55—65	2	....	....	....	2	....	....	....
65 and upwards	....	....	....	....	....	....	1	....
TOTALS	16	11	4	3	11	6	1	1

Rate of Incidence of New Cases—1·02 per 1,000 civilian population

Death Rate from this Disease 0·57 „ „

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE YEAR.

Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	TOTAL
119	109	228	44	41	85	313

Add :—

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary
M	F	TOTAL	M	F	TOTAL	TOTAL
122	108	230	44	40	84	314

Rate of Incidence : 9·46 per 1,000 civilian population.

CANCER DEATHS.

Total	Site	Sex	Age Groups			Cly- dach	Pontar- dawe	Ystaly- fera	G.C.G.
			25-45	45-65	65+				
6	Carcinoma	M	—	4	2	5	—	1	—
—	of Lung	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	Carcinoma	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	of Breast	F	1	1	3	2	—	3	—
4	Carcinoma	M	—	1	3	1	—	2	1
—	of Prostate	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Carcinoma of	M	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
—	Kidney (Rt.)	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Carcinoma of	M	—	3	3	4	—	2	—
6	Stomach and	F	—	1	5	1	2	—	3
—	Intestine	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	of Cervix	F	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
1	Carcinoma	M	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1	of Pancreas	F	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
2	Carcinoma of	M	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
2	Oesophagus	F	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
3	Carcinoma	M	—	2	1	—	2	—	1
2	of Rectum	F	—	1	1	1	1	—	—
4	Carcinoma	M	—	2	2	1	1	1	1
3	of Colon	F	—	2	1	—	1	—	2
—	Carcinoma	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	of Caecum	F	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
1	Carcinoma of	M	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
—	Gall Bladder	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Adeno-Carcinoma	M	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
—	of Testicle (Rt.)	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Carcinoma	M	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
—	of Spine	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	Carcinoma	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	of Uterus	F	—	1	1	—	1	1	—
—	Carcinoma	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	of Mouth	F	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
1	Carcinoma	M	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
—	of Umbilicus	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Epithelioma	M	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
—	of Lip	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Carcinoma of	M	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
—	Naso-Pharynx	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	Epithelioma	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	Vulva	F	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
58	TOTALS		3	28	27	22	11	13	12

NUMBER VACCINATED IN THE DISTRICT DURING 1946.

	<i>Clydach</i>	<i>Pontardawe</i>	<i>Ystalyfera</i>	<i>Gwauncae- gurwen</i>	<i>Total</i>
Quarter 31 /3 /46	6	5	1	....	12
„ 30 /6 /46	10	7	6	2	25
„ 30 /9 /46	2	14	1	1	18
„ 31 /12 /46	2	11	3	....	16
TOTALS	20	37	11	3	71

RAINFALL IN 1946—AT WERN HOUSE, YSTALYFERA

<i>Month</i>	<i>Total Depth</i>	<i>Greatest fall in 24 hours</i>		<i>Number of days with '01 or more recorded</i>
	INCHES	DATE	INCHES	
January	9·51	Jan. 31st	1·26	16
February	5·63	Feb. 2nd	1·15	17
March	2·25	March 21st	·69	10
April	1·87	April 4th	·50	11
May	3·54	May 6th	1·28	14
June	8·08	June 4th	2·28	23
July	5·04	July 16th	·74	18
August	11·63	Aug. 28th	1·50	25
September	11·86	Sept. 22nd	1·55	25
October	1·99	Oct. 2nd	1·14	9
November	14·35	Nov. 23rd	2·75	22
December	7·39	Dec. 22nd	1·50	17
TOTALS	83·14			207

Rain Gauge

Diameter of Funnel—5 inches.

Height of top—Above ground, 1 foot, 6 inches

Above Sea Level, 240 feet.

We are indebted to Miss Lily Williams of the address given above, for the figures given in this table, and it is therefore desired to take advantage of this occasion to thank her for continuing to submit these records to the Department from year to year.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT.

1946.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1946. Perusal of its contents will indicate the work carried out under various statutory requirements.

New duties in respect of shops have been assumed during the year. These duties embrace closing hours and, what is of greater importance, the general working environment of shop assistants, *viz.*, lighting, ventilation, heating, food, sanitary and washing facilities.

Food supplies have received due attention and efforts have been made through the medium of advisory circulars and inspections, to elevate the hygienic standards of ice-cream manufacture. The recent legislation in this respect is a welcome addition to existing powers under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Your Council has, during the year, approved in principle a Municipal Refuse Bin Ownership Scheme which will operate at the earliest favourable date. Approval has also been given to the extension of direct labour motorised refuse collection to three areas at present collected under contract. One new lorry was obtained during the year and delivery of two further vehicles is awaited. These are urgently required to replace existing 12-year-old vehicles.

The major part of the area has now been inspected under the Rural Housing Survey. The results to date and conclusions drawn therefrom are dealt with in this respect.

Inspections for the Year 1946

(a) All types of premises under Public Health and Housing Acts	....	....	....	....	....	1,563
(b) Infectious Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	111
(c) Farms, Cowsheds and Dairies	....	....	....	....	....	119
(d) Factories and Workplaces	....	....	....	....	....	32
(e) Verminous Premises	....	....	....	....	....	96
(f) Miscellaneous (including Food Stores and Butchers' Shops)	....	....	....	....	....	207
(g) Inspections under Infestation Order, 1943	....	....	....	....	....	328

Public Cleansing

Refuse Collection in the area is carried out by direct labour and contract.

Direct Labour

Area	Transport		Personnel
Pontardawe	Bedford Lorry	30 cwts.	3
Clydach	Morris Lorry	30 „	3
Gwauncaegurwen	Bedford Lorry	30 „	3
Ystalyfera	Morris Lorry	30 „	3
Salvage (General)	Bedford Lorry	5 tons	3
Cwmllynfell Tip	—	—	1
TOTAL		5	16

Contracts

Refuse Collection by contract is carried out in Cwmllynfell, Alltwen and Rhos, Craigcefnparc, Garnswllt, Velindre and Rhydybandy.

Refuse Disposal

Tips are owned or rented by the Council.

Clydach (Penybank)	} <i>Simplified Controlled Tipping System employed</i>
Pontardawe (Canal Side Tip) ....	.....
Ystalyfera (Penywern) ....	.....
Gwauncaegurwen (Brynamman) ....	.....
Cwmllynfell and Rhiwfawr (Brynmorgan Field)		

Dumping is also carried out at various farm lands in the area, for road-making purposes.

Reference must be made to the unhygienic habit of indiscriminate dumping of house refuse by householders. In the majority of cases this occurs where collection is most regular and frequent. Efforts are made to reduce the prevalence of this practice by affixing notices and circulars where found necessary.

Salvage

The Refuse Collection Organisation has been adapted for the collection of waste materials. This reduces the volume of combustible refuse hitherto collected with house refuse. During 1946, 71 tons of waste paper were salvaged and sold to paper mills.

Night Soil Removal.

This work is carried out by Contractors in the areas named below.

<i>Area</i>	<i>No. of Pails Removed during year 1946</i>
Cilybebyll	9,736
Rhydyfro	6,715
Rhiwfawr	4,794
Ynysymond	4,236
Craigcefnparc	572
	<hr/>
	26,053
	<hr/>
Number of pails renewed	29

Factories Act, 1937

Factories and workplaces were visited and attention paid to those matters falling within the purview of "District Councils," as defined in the above Act. Action was taken to remedy those breaches of regulations detected in the course of routine inspections, and close liaison maintained with H.M. Inspector of Factories.

Complaints made by H.M. Inspector of Factories were investigated and dealt with.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Infestation Order, 1943.

The successful activity of previous years has resulted in public reliance being placed in the local authority's method of treatment. This has resulted in an increase in reported complaints and a diminution of sporadic private baiting. The prebait system advocated by the Ministry of Food after long research is fully operated in the area, and is undoubtedly efficacious.

RODENT DESTRUCTION, 1946

WARD /PARISH	Premises Treated, including Refuse Tips, Brooks, River Banks				Sewer Baiting			Combined Figures				
	No. Treated	No. of Baiting Points	No. of Baits Laid	Esti- mated Kill	No. of Man- holes	No. of Baits Laid	Esti- mated Kill	Total Premises & Manholes	Total Baiting Points	Total Baits Laid	Total Kill Estimated	
Rhyndwyclydach ...	12	144	576	830	148	1,032	1,060	160	292	1,608	1,890	
Gellionen ...	2	28	112	46	48	356	205	50	76	468	251	
Blaenegel and Mawr	38	398	1,592	497	177	1,216	2,440	215	575	2,808	2,937	
Godrergraig ...	7	84	336	52	54	340	188	61	138	676	240	
Alltygrug ...	9	76	304	34	79	620	282	88	155	924	316	
Caegurwen ...	14	138	552	110	} Treasary tment not necessary during year	} No Sewer available	}	14	138	552	110	
Cwmllynfell ...	2	24	96	48				2	24	96	48	
Mawr
Ynisymond ...	7	64	256	42	7			64	256	42		
Cilybebyll ...	15	109	436	92	15			109	436	92		
TOTALS ...	106	1,065	4,260	1,751	506	3,564	4,175	612	1,571	7,824	5,926	

The results of action taken in 1946 are analysed on the schedule included in this section of the report. It is significant that where sewer baiting was undertaken there was a subsequent decrease in surface infestations.

Shops Acts, 1912-1938.

Consequent upon assumption of all duties under the above Acts, detailed registration of all shop premises became necessary. A shops' register was designed, capable of serving also as a register for those premises coming within the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Cards were also designed for individual premises. Shop premises are now regularly inspected and cards completed at all initial inspections. It is felt that the absence of active Trade and Commerce Organisations in the area makes difficult the dissemination of information and precludes district co-ordination of late days and holidays. The renaissance of such organisations would be welcomed.

Total number of premises coming within above Acts—918.

Rural Housing Survey

During 1946, the major part of the field work of the survey was completed. An analysis of the houses surveyed is given below.

<i>No. Houses Surveyed</i>	<i>Fit Cat. 1.</i>	<i>Minor Defects Cat. 2</i>	<i>Req. Reconstruction Cat. 3</i>	<i>Incapable of Repair Cat. 4.</i>
5,041	2,497	1,532	768	244

It is already evident, even at this interim stage, that the Survey will be an extremely valuable instrument for guiding future housing policy.

Those houses in Category 1 require no comment. Category 4, however, embracing those premises incapable of repair, gives clear indication of

(a) future housing needs to replace worn-out premises.

(b) those areas where that particular need is likely to be greatest.

Categories 2 and 3 contain those properties that are capable of repair, and every effort is being made within the present limited material and labour facilities to obtain repair of these premises. The following difficulties, however, are encountered :

1—Established legal precedents permit only certain defects and requirements to be dealt with under the nuisance sections of the Public Health Acts, while the only alternative, *viz.*, Section 9, Housing Act, 1936, requires that **all** defects be included in repair schedules. This latter course is difficult at a time when “minimum” requirements only are possible.

2—“Reasonable cost” can no longer be practicably assessed for the purpose of Section 9, Health Act, 1936, as repair costs are based on present-day enhanced prices, while the final house value is based on present rental (Stabilised 1939).

These difficulties are, of course, the inevitable aftermath of war, and their presence serves only to call for greater effort in the elevation of housing standards.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year (including Housing Survey)

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	5,510
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	6,604
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) (above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	5,041
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	5,041
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	244
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	2,381

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	210
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Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	....	....	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :			
(a) by Owners (in process of completion)	....		1
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners (in process of completion)	....	....	1

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	....	....	....	150
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	....			6
(a) by Owners	....	....	....	6
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	....			Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	....	....	....	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	....	....	....	Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	....	....	....	....	....	....	391
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	....	....	....	....	....	....	618
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	....	....	....	....	....	....	3,090
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	....	....	....	....	....	....	10
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	....	....	....	....	....	....	51
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	....	....	....	....	....	....	204
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	....	....	....	....	....	....	5
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil

Milk Supply

(a) Number of Inspections made of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops during the year	....	....	....	....	....	....	119
(b) Number of Cowsheds erected	....	....	....	....	....	....	Nil
(c) Number of Cowsheds which were internally reconditioned, new floors and channels in cement concrete, additional windows fixed for improving the lighting and ventilation, new stalls and troughs, etc., erected	....	....	....	....	....	....	11

(d) New Dairies erected	....	....	....	....	Nil
(e) Number of Cowsheds limewashed on internal surfaces of walls, and interior of roofs cleansed as the result of informal action taken	....	....	....	....	61

Samples of graded and ungraded milk have been taken frequently. Particulars of these are given in the Medical Officer of Health's Report.

Meat and other Foods.

The slaughtering of animals for the area's meat consumption is centralised at Swansea and Llandilo. Meat is inspected at the area's two allocation depots, and also at retail premises. Unfit meat is returned to the abattoir concerned for salvage purposes. The large quantity of meat condemned during 1946 was due to bone taint being found seated in the deep regions of the joints.

Butchers' Shops

Number of visits to butchers' shops and inspections of vans delivering meat in the area—207.

The textile shortage necessitated the payment of special attention to the caps and coats worn by personnel engaged in delivery of meat.

Other Foods

The following articles of food were found to be unfit for human consumption :—

Bacon and Ham	696 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	Bread	....	24	loaves
Butter	....	46 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	Biscuits	....	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Cake	....	13 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Cereals	....	183 lbs.
Cheese	....	265 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Dried Fruit	....	279 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Confectionery	....	13 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Dried Milk	....	83 tins
Dried Vegetables	68 lbs.	Dripping	....	1	drum
Eggs	....	33 doz.	Flour	....	215 lbs.
Fresh Fruit	....	362 lbs.	Jam	....	91 lbs.
Fresh Vegetables	60 lbs.	Margarine	....	20	lbs.
Fresh Fish	....	91 lbs.	Pickles	....	28 jars
Preserves (Apples)	18 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Meat (Canned)	....	57 $\frac{1}{4}$	lbs.
Meat (Fresh)	....	2,024 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Tea	....	16 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Tins (Assorted)	604	tins			

In every case certificates were given to the retailer in order to ensure replacement of stock.

Ice-cream

In view of the increasing consumption of ice-cream as a general and not seasonal item of diet, special reference must be made to its manufacture and sale.

During 1946, numerous samples have been taken for bacteriological analysis, and where bacterial counts were found to be high, subsequent advisory visits paid during manufacture. Material reductions in counts were effected through hygienic measures introduced as a result of these inspections.

Advisory circulars covering all aspects of manufacture, distribution and storage were drawn up and circulated to all manufacturers and retailers in the area.

Infectious Diseases.

1. Number of investigations made of Notified Infectious Disease cases	....	....	....	....	....	....	94
2. Number of premises fumigated	....	....	....	....	....	....	17
3. Number of cases where clothes were steam disinfected	....	....	....	....	....	....	146
4. (a) Number of cases where bedding was destroyed after Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
(b) Tuberculosis compensation paid	....	....	....	....	....	....	£8/10/-

Householders were provided with disinfectant and disinfecting soap, precautionary measures for preventing spread of infection being fully explained. Special attention was paid to those cases nursed at home. All children of school age were excluded for the appropriate time.

Departmental Distribution of Disinfectants and Insecticides

Disinfectants (all types)	....	....	....	....	148 bottles
Liquid Insecticides (D.D.T., Pyrethrum, Velsicol)	....	....	....	....	510 bottles
Powder Insecticides (D.D.T. and Gam-mexane)	....	....	....	....	776 packets

During the year the efficiency of D.D.T. as an insecticide became even more apparent. New insecticides such as "Gam-mexane" and "Velsicol" were used under test conditions, with successful results. The distribution of insecticides of reputable and approved manufacture is widely appreciated, and together with advice given, is instrumental in effecting reduction of household insect pests.

IEUAN LEWIS,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.





